

ABSTRACT

AL-V-292

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(170)
Ellerslie, Maryland vicinity
Public/private

1766/1767 (area surveyed/marked)
1902 (new monument set at additional
site)

Milestone No. ---(170), on the eastern slope of Little Allegheny Mountain about 4800 feet west of the preceding monument, No. ---(169) in Ellerslie, marks an additional point on Mason and Dixon's West Line about 159 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is a very plain dressed Cockeysville marble monument with a low pyramidal top, of the same design and source as 65 other new monuments set during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary west of Sideling Hill. It is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly set; measures 10 inches square by about 1½ feet high above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland; and the year 1766 on the east side (when this area was preliminarily surveyed) and 1902 on the west side (when this new site was established and monumented). On the national and state levels, No. ---(170) is significant primarily as one of the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 37 monuments marking the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, it is also significant symbolically for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 170)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the west side of MD 35/PA 96

CITY, TOWN

Ellerslie

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 9

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Allegany / PA: Bedford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☒ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED☒ not applicable

STATUS N/A

☐ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☒ ACCESSIBLE☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ OTHER: state
boundary marker**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Allegany County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

AL-VB-281 entered 6/2/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

Survey No. ~~ALV-A-292~~

ALV-A-292

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		X additional site (2)

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(170) was a new monument when set in 1902 at an additional site on Mason and Dixon's West Line during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is a dressed Cockeysville marble post with a low pyramidal top; is in excellent condition, firmly set, unaltered; measures 10 inches square by about 1½ feet ^{high} above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1766 on the east side (when this area was preliminarily surveyed) and 1902 on the west side (when this site was established and monumented).

The area ^{remote, densely forested} here is one of the ^{Wills Creek and} eastern foothill ridges of Little Allegheny Mountain, uphill to the west of the town of Ellerslie, MD/PA. The site is within Election District 20 of Allegany County, MD, and Londonderry Township of Bedford County, PA; about 4800 feet due west of the preceding monument No. ---(169) in Ellerslie, ^{at} a point ^(on Mason and Dixon's map) about 159 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their ^{230.228-mile} West Line; at the south end of a narrow ^{unnamed} ridge and about 40 feet south of the old pipeline (about 15 feet west of an old north-south barbed wire fence). It cannot be seen from any road or the pipeline, nor easily from closeby because of the density of the woods, ^{seems protected by} and this obscurity and remoteness.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sideling Hill along the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD, of a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, intended for setting about 1½ feet above ground, with the remaining 3 feet for setting firmly into the ground when possible. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the top planes and apex, are all clear and intact, except for minor chips at the top corners and a dark lichen-covering of most of the stone surfaces.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for descriptions of the several kinds of new monuments set in 1902 and the Resurvey method of securing them)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1766/1767 (area surveyed/marked) BUILDER/ARCHITECT Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
1902 (new monument set) SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. ---(170) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the some 248 markers of the thematic group series still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228- boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This part of the Line was preliminarily surveyed in 1766, marked at irregular intervals with cairns and additional wood posts the following year, and the present site on the Line established and monumented in 1902 with a new Cockeysville marble marker during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 37 markers along the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, No. ---(170) is also significant for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Cumberland (Maryland-Pennsylvania-West Virginia), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), 1949 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 68922, northing 439912

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE MarylandCOUNTY AlleganySTATE PennsylvaniaCOUNTY Bedford**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

10/25/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

HYA

1

1949 PHOTOREV. 1974²³ HYM

696

300,000 FEET (MD.) 09

95





(170)

MHT

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE - (170)

STONE MONUMENT (1902)

AL-V-292

NE CORNER (1766/P)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 10/25/81 (1981-49. 34)

~~AL-V-292~~



MHT (with apologies!)

ITASON & DIXON WESTLINE: MILESTONE - (170)

STONE MONUMENT (1902)

SW CORNER (1902/M)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 10/25/81 (1981.49.32)

AL-V-292



MHT AL-V-B-292 ~~AL-IB-281~~

M2D WEST LINE: MILESTONE — (170)
STONE MONUMENT (1902)

VIEW NW: OF STONE SETTING &
SHOWING PROXIMITY OF OLD PIPELINE
SWATH,

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 10/25/81 (1981.49.35)